

## Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-13

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TO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

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NESCO

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: UNESCO, SOPN

SUBJECT: WIRE SERVICE COVERAGE OF UNESCO CONFERENCE

(11/6-11/8)

1. FOR YOUR INFORMATION, FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF AP, UPI, REUTERS WIRE SERVICE COVERAGE OF CONFERENCE FOR DATES INDICATED. EMPHASIS CONTINUED ON MASS MEDIA DECLARATION AND ISRAELI MEMBERSHIP QUESTION.

2. MASS MEDIA DECLARATION: WIRE SERVICES REPORTED VOTE (78-15-6) TO SEND MASS MEDIA DECLARATION TO SPECIAL NEGOTIATING GROUP (SNG). UPI STATED SENTIMENT 2-1 IN FAVOR BRAZILIAN PROPOSAL TO SUBMIT TO DNG FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATION. NOTED HEARTY APPLAUSE BY DELEGATION WHEN EGYPT WITHDREW AMENDMENT CALLING FOR A SMALL WORKING GROUP TO REWRITE DOCUMENT.

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SOVIETS CONTINUE TO HINT THAT COMPROMISE POSSIBLE, AND THAT DRAFT NOT AIMED AT PRESS FREEDOM, BUT TO UNDERLINE RESPONSIBILITY OF STATES FOR STATE-CONTROLLED MEDIA. REUTERS REPORTED CONFERENCE SOURCES SAYING IMPOSSIBLE TO RECONCILE CONFLICTING EAST/WEST VIEWS, WITH REFERRAL TO 1978 GENERAL CONFERENCE PROBABLE.

LIKELY SCENARIO IN DMG IS ADMISSION OF DEFEAT IN FINDING A CONSENSUS ABOUT ONE WEEK BEFORE END OF CONFERENCE, THERE THEN BEING NO TIME FOR RECONSIDERATION.

UPI QUOTED US DELEGATE KIRKPATRICK SAYING HE THOUGHT CONGRESS FIND ACTION "GRATIFYING", THAT UNESCO HAD REVERTED TO ORIGINAL FORMAT, "TO FIND A CONSENSUS".

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3. ISRAELI MEMBERSHIP: BY VOTE OF 70-0-17 (AP CITING 70-0-14), GENERAL CONFERENCE VOTED TO LET EACH REGIONAL GROUP SELECT ITS OWN MEMBERS, MOVING A STEP CLOSER TO REVERSING THE EXCLUSION OF ISRAEL FROM THE EUROPEAN GROUP. AP NOTES WESTERN DELEGATES "CAUTIOUSLY OPTIMISTIC"; REUTERS STATED MEMBERSHIP VIRTUALLY ASSURED.

WIRE SERVICES QUOTED SEN DICK CLARK, "A CONTINUATION OF THE MODERATION AND MINIMAL CONFRONTATION SEEN SO FAR IN THE NAIROBI UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE, HOPEFULLY WILL LEAD TO A FULL US COMMITMENT TO THE ORGANIZATION, IN EVERY MANNER, INCLUDING MONETARY."

UPI NOTED VOTE HAD EFFECT OF PREEMPTING CONFRONTATION OVER ISRAEL, WITH SOURCES SAYING NEXT STEP IS FOR CONFERENCE PRESIDENT TAAITA TO CONSULT WITH 36 MEMBERS OF EUROPEAN GROUP ABOUT ISRAELI MEMBERSHIP. ACCORDING TO REUTERS, NO PLENARY VOTE NECESSARY UNLESS MEMBER STATE SPECIFICALLY REQUESTS IT. THUS, ACCORDING TO UNESCO SPOKESMAN, GENERAL CONFERENCE WILL NOT CHALLENGE IF GROUP AGREES TO ISRAELI MEMBERSHIP.

REUTERS NOTES CONFERENCE SOURCES SAYING STILL EXPECT ATTACKS ON ISRAEL. ONE APPROACH TAKEN BY ALGERIA, SOMALIA, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND IRAQ, AND SUPPORTED BY MILITANT ARAB STATES, IS TO EXCLUDE ISRAEL FROM ALL UNESCO ACTIVITIES BUT G.C., ON GROUNDS OF DISREGARD OF UNESCO RESOLUTION ON JERUSALEM EXCAVATIONS. ALTHOUGH VOTE EXPECTED CLOSE, ISRAEL SHOULD BE SPARED BY SLIM MAJORITY - OWING IN GREAT MEASURE TO MAJORITY OF 48 INDEPENDENT AFRICAN STATES' DETERMINATION TO MAKE FIRST G.C. IN AFRICA A SUCCESS.

REUTERS COMMENT: CONFERENCE SOURCES SAID THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES BECOMING MORE AND MORE DISENCHANTED WITH RIGID ATTITUDES OF COMMUNIST BLOC AND PRESSURES TO WHICH IT SUBJECTED THEM. THEY ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT WRONG TO INTERPRET DEVELOPMENTS AS VICTORY FOR WEST, AS ATTITUDE NOT SUDDEN CHANGE OF HEART IN FAVOR WEST, BUT DISAFFECTION WITH COMMUNIST EAST. THIRD WORLD NOW VERY MUCH DETERMINING FACTOR IN UN.

4. OTHER ISSUES: ACCORDING TO REUTERS, CONCRETE ACTIONS DEFERRED ON DECLARATION ON RACISM. DELEGATES AGREED THAT QUESTION NEEDED FURTHER STUDY. KISSINGER

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